I

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS

Gazetteers

Preparation of the District Gazetteers.

* 535 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any proposal to appoint any Editor for the preparation of the several District Gazetteers to succeed the late Mr. J. J. Cotton, I.C.S. (who died in June 1927) ;

(*b*) whether the Government will lay on the table a list of the present establishment list of the Gazetteer section, with the names of the holders, their qualifications, duties assigned, age, previous experience, etc., and their pay ;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that an unpassed man has been appointed as a clerk in the Gazetteer section in preference to qualified men available from the Staff Selection Board's lists ;

(*d*) when, how long, and to what places the Personal Assistant has undertaken touring from the time of his appointment till this date ;

(*e*) what was the necessity and the purpose of these tours ; and

(*f*) what was the cost incurred by these tours and the net result therefrom in the matter of the preparation of Gazetteers ?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clause (*c*) of question No. 312 on 8th September 1928.

(*b*) & (*c*) A report has been called for.

(*d*), (*e*) & (*f*) The Government have permitted the Personal Assistant to the Editor of Gazetteers to tour out of Madras when necessary for the purpose of collecting information for the B. Volumes of the District Gazetteers which are being compiled. A statement of the tours made under this order has been called for.

Irrigation

Construction of a masonry dam at Tiruvarkadu.

* 536 *Q.*—Mr. P. Bhaktavatsulu Nayudu : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any memorial was received by Government from the villagers of Iynambakam village No. 87, of Saidapet taluk, Chingleput district, requesting the construction of a masonry dam to feed the Iynambakam tank from the Cooum river at Tiruvarkadu, Avadi-Poonamallee Road, and, if so, what action was taken thereon ;

(*b*) whether the place was inspected by the then District Collector and whether the work was strongly recommended in the interest of the villagers ;

(*c*) whether the then Superintending Engineer also inspected the place and very strongly recommended the work ;

(*d*) whether the villagers were asked to pay a moiety of the costs and whether they expressed their willingness to bear the same ;